IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Yukio MORISHIGE et al.

Divisional of Appln. No. 09/533,244

Filed: March 22, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: S. Macarthur

Appln. No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: November 21, 2001

Group Art Unit: not yet assigned

For:

THIN FILM FORMING EQUIPMENT AND METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a divisional of Application No. 09/533,244 filed March 22, 2000; the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 21, 2001